

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

April 2, 2018

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We urge you to nominate a qualified candidate for Commissioner of Social Security without delay.

For too long, this important agency has struggled without the strong and consistent leadership of a Senate-confirmed Commissioner. As highlighted at a March 7, 2018 Social Security Subcommittee hearing, the SSA has not had a Senate-confirmed Commissioner since January 19, 2013 – that is, for more than five years. In that time, the SSA has faced unprecedented challenges like the urgent need to modernize its information technology systems and record-high wait times for claimants to receive a disability hearing decision.

On March 6, 2018, the nonpartisan Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that the SSA has been in violation of the *Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998* (P.L. 105-277) since November 17, 2017. As a result, the office of Commissioner is now vacant, leaving this important agency without an official leader. Fortunately, there is an easy solution to this. All it takes to put the SSA back into compliance with the *Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998* is the nomination of a Commissioner.

Mr. President, the hardworking Americans who count on Social Security can't afford to wait any longer. We urge you to nominate a Commissioner of Social Security as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Kevin Brady
Chairman



Sam Johnson
Chairman
Subcommittee on Social Security



Adrian Smith
Chairman
Subcommittee on Human Resources